

## The Evening World

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## MAKING A MESS OF IT.

**W**ORK on an important section of the Broadway subway may be held up indefinitely and the completion of the new dual system delayed months or even years, thanks to a belated after-thought of the Board of Estimate's Bureau of Contract Supervision.

A contract already advertised and awarded permits—as have all others of its class—the contractor and the chief engineer of the Public Service Commission to agree upon the payment of a lump sum for extra work instead of adding to the actual cost of the extras a percentage for profit. The Board of Estimate now suddenly decides to strike out this stipulation. The contractor maintains that the Board of Estimate has no power to fix over a contract which has been duly advertised and awarded. The Public Service Commission stands by the contractor. So does Acting Mayor McAneny and Alderman Curran as Acting President of the Board of Aldermen.

By insisting upon the change the Board of Estimate forces the matter into the courts and effectively ties up subway construction.

Merchants, real estate owners and the general public who eagerly look forward to the day when the subways shall be finished and the streets restored to normal condition may well lose all patience with so-called municipal management. The time to put provisions into a contract is before it has been assigned. Clumsy attempts to revise it afterward are only going to add to the loss and confusion which dawdling over subway work inflicts upon all interests public and private.

Why must the city's business always be bungled?

## WARDEN OSBORNE.

**I**T IS ALWAYS hard to see a man of energy, enthusiasm and high principle turned out of his chosen work because of overzeal.

Thomas Mott Osborne has done some exceedingly foolish things at Sing Sing. The charge that another convict was allowed to visit and talk with Becker in the death house is a grave one. "Leave of absence" for convicts is scarcely justifiable. Moving pictures, "first nights" and concerts in the death house, though less serious matters, are open to criticism. The case of the "trust" who, being allowed to wander about with a box of stage carpenter's tools, finally decided to try them on the window bars, is one the late W. S. Gilbert should have immortalized in a libretto.

Nevertheless, as a member of the Joint Committee on Prison Reform, who has followed Warden Osborne's doings, justly observes:

No one will undertake to say that he took over a perfect institution and ruined its administrative features. On the contrary, it is well known that he took charge of a wretchedly unfit prison, with the worst possible conditions and with a notoriously shameful administration, and that conditions have been vastly improved by his efforts.

Why doesn't Mr. Osborne take counsel with himself whether his aims are not worth the sacrifice of certain extreme experiments and of the accompanying talk and discussion to which he has seemed not averse? A frank statement that he can and will be more cautious, quiet and "statutory" in applying his theories might go far not only to continue but to increase his usefulness in his present position.

## APPLES STAY HOME.

**A**LTHOUGH Europe has a few choice apples of its own, it has always had a wholesale appetite for the American article. In London and Paris, indeed, American and Canadian apples used to cost less than some of the native varieties, mainly because of the greater supply.

But this year Europe has not been munching apples. Last fall millions of barrels which in ordinary years would have found their way from American orchards to the docks of Atlantic ports had to be disposed of at home. And this year, with a bumper apple yield in prospect, foreign markets are still less to be relied on.

The International Apple Shippers, now convened at Chicago, are impressing upon apple growers the value of the markets that are no more and trying to figure where to place the fall crop. Apples ought to be cheap next winter and "sass" plenty.

## Hits From Sharp Wits.

Lovers of compliments ever want them complemented.—Deseret News.

Calling a man a liar is never an argument.

It is usually the whale of a liar that comes up to blow.

It is merely a waste of words when a man tells his wife that she can do as she pleases.—Omaha World-Herald.

A man may do nothing wrong and still be a citizen of no particular value.—Albany Journal.

Thorough knowledge of self leaves little room for conceit.—Albany Journal.

"People are funny," remarked the

Man on the Car, "and the funniest are the ones with chronic solemnity."—Toledo Blade.

The man who confines his remarks to one subject for an hour has told all he knows about it.

If honesty were not the best policy there would be a good deal less of it.—Nashville Banner.

The person who figures his job as the shortest possible line between starting and quitting will eventually work into more quitting than starting.—Macon Telegraph.

The man who knows it all is the last person you want to go to for good advice.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

## Letters From the People

For a Traffic Court.

On the Editor of The Evening World:

Your recent editorial on "High Grade Crime," in which it is stated that "criminal carelessness in handling of motor vehicles has become one of the commonest crimes in the State calendar," gives certainly the most forcible and conclusive reason for the establishment of a Traffic Court.

As autoists seem under the impression that the public streets are motor speedways it seems to me to be of vital necessity in this city for a court of such jurisdiction, as all violations of the traffic ordinance would be tried in a court where records could be kept of such offenses and where speeders would become known in short order. The papers record a case of a young woman arrested a third time for speeding and she was promptly fined \$100. The fourth time that she is arrested and tried in an order borough she may be discharged as a person for a petty offense is placed

on probation, but a criminally careless handler of a motor vehicle can continue on his way. What a travesty on justice! Again, readers are not the tragedy lists of slaughter in streets through motor car accidents sufficient argument for the establishment of a Traffic Court?

J. M. J.

Chestnut Leaves for Poison.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

I read recently in your paper about fire weed as a cure for poison ivy.

There are several kinds of weeds that grow wild in New Jersey which will cure ivy poisoning. The best cure which my experience leads me to believe in is as follows: Gather a big handful of chestnut leaves. Dry them and put them in a quart of cold water. Let them simmer for four or five hours. Then strain off the water and let it cool. Then bathe affected parts and let the solution dry on.

Bathe very frequently.

B. A.

## Men Who Fail

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By J. H. Cassel



"I wish I knew some one who could get me a good job."

## The Jarr Family

By Roy L. McCardell

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**W**HATCHA reading with such deep interest?" asked Mr. Jarr. "It's a very good story and a very true one," said Mrs. Jarr, looking up from the engrossing volume.

Mr. Jarr crossed over and gave a peck. "The Memoirs of Mildred Milde, the Diary of a Neglected Wife," he remarked.

"I wish you wouldn't shout in my ear!" cried Mrs. Jarr. "Now, you've made me lose my place."

"My, it must be grand when you're so interested!" scoffed Mr. Jarr.

"Yes, it is grand, and I am interested," replied Mrs. Jarr. "I could write such a book, only I haven't time."

"How did Mildred Milde get the time?" asked Mr. Jarr.

"Because she was neglected," said Mrs. Jarr, chuckling.

"Then, if you haven't the time you're not neglected, so that's settled," said Mr. Jarr, chuckling.

"No, it isn't settled," replied Mrs. Jarr quickly. "I'm neglected all right, but I have this house to look after and I have my children to look after."

At least, Mildred Milde, even if she was neglected, didn't have to worry about bills. She had plenty of money and servants and a fine home and automobiles and no children—and she didn't have to make one dollar do the work of three!

"Just so, just so!" murmured Mr. Jarr. "Mildred's story listens very sad indeed. And Mildred Milde was a neglected wife? Say, why doesn't the Milde party give a few sympathetic moans about neglected husbands."

"Nonsense!" said Mrs. Jarr. "There are no neglected husbands. You men have it good in this world. You don't have the care of children, the meeting of bill collectors, the sneers of other women who are better dressed than you are. If a man dresses in good taste most men think he's a dandy and have a contempt for him. But if a woman doesn't dress well her friends are ashamed of her and she can see them sneering at her. And that sort of thing hurts."

"Aw, put up that book," said Mr. Jarr. "If you don't I'll sit right down and start a literary backbite that will cause a social upheaval, a revolt of the long suffering. I'll begin on my great work for the common good and the uplift of the downtrodden. 'The Story of Neglected Husbands.'"

Mrs. Jarr just shrugged her shoulders.

"Oh, you don't think we are neglected?" asked Mr. Jarr. "Look at this shirt. There isn't a button on it. Look at the trousers I'm wearing. There's a fringe on the bottom of them. That should be fixed. They are not pressed. I suppose I should send them out to a tailor, when five minutes and a hot iron and the loving care of a wife should have them neat and nice. My case is the case of half the men in

this town. The women are running around the streets and shops. They won't even do their own work at home; they want to belong to clubs and gabble over things they do not understand; they want to be slighted in the streets and stores; running to matinees; they spend the money their husbands give them on clothes to ape the rich; they—"

But Mrs. Jarr had risen to her feet. "Do you mean to say I do those things?" she asked.

"Certainly not," said Mr. Jarr, running to cover. "And are you a neglected wife? Don't I spend my time at home? Do I waste my money?"

"No," said Mrs. Jarr. "We haven't enough to waste; we haven't even enough to spend."

"Then let me take that book and give it to the janitor," said Mr. Jarr. "He's the only person of means around here."

To this Mrs. Jarr agreed. Later the janitor's wife sent up word that it was a grand book, and would Mrs. Jarr lend her \$2, as she was a neglected wife so far as spending-money was concerned.

## "Old-Fashioned Wives"

By Sophie Irene Loeb

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**H**E said I was old-fashioned and out of date," a wife told Justice Ford the other day in a suit of separation from a husband who had so long taunted her with the criticism that she was "old-fashioned" that she appealed to the courts.

And now the Judge must determine just how up-to-date a wife must be in order to be treated with affection by her husband, or how otherwise she may secure proper protection under the circumstances. The husband in this case is well-to-do. Perhaps this is the indirect cause of his criticism of her.

It is the prerogative of every woman to live up to the times, and not lag behind in the progressive ways of this world. Many a husband has been discouraged and lost love for his wife because when he has accumulated money and wanted to enjoy his earnings the wife has insisted on the old economical way and REFUSED to rise to proper conditions with him.

Such a wife wakes up to the realization that there is always some OTHER woman ready to spend her husband's money, and she usually finds herself before her heartbroken weeping at her lonely lot. Very often such a wife has only herself to blame because she has not put forth the energy to please her life partner, preferring to remain in the background, which she usually does. In a word, she has refused to rise with him and has remained where she was years ago.

This is an age of life, activity; and a woman can have an interest in modern things about her, to the joy of her husband, and in the end can see them sneering at her. And that sort of thing hurts."

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## Mr. Jarr Threatens to Write a Book:

"The Story of a Neglected Husband."

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## So Wags the World

By Clarence L. Cullen

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**E**NGMAS of Existence: Monkey department of any zoo. Marble cake. "Tired business man" joke. Brisk walks before breakfast. Communiques. Blackberry wine. Phonographic "chimes" records. Home-made chop suey.

The prodigality with which we blow in the \$5 note that somebody says back to us must mean that we never expected to clap a lamp on that velvet.

We've got an idea that the woman who wears soiled white shoes never sweeps behind the doors or under the beds.

There is said to be a contortionist-conductor on the Pennsylvania Railroad who has learned how to take a drink of water out of one of those paraffine "drinking" envelopes without danger of drowning.

A lot of comicists had to grow old and grizzled before they found out that "The Erie" never minded those jokes.

One of the saddest cases that has come to our notice recently is that of an amiable young woman whose dad tried to stop smoking and whose mother tried to reduce her fat by dieting at the same time.

Enigmas of Existence: Country butter. What she calls "a pick-up dinner." Clothes in hot weather. The starvation regime of summer dietitians. Cold baths to "cool off." Moujik hair-cuts for little girls.

We wonder how many folk would really consider certain movie "comedies" side-splittingly funny if they hadn't been told so.

Whenever we see a bathing girl wearing one of those rubber caps with a draw string we wonder why she wouldn't prefer to get her hair soaking, soaking wet.

When a woman doesn't know how to cook, her don't-know is bigger and bolder when she tackles a boiled huckleberry dumpling than anything else we know of.

## Sayings of Mrs. Solomon

By Helen Rowland

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**W**HO is this, my Daughter, that cometh out of Brooklyn, saying: "Behold, I seek a PERFECT HUSBAND!"

"Lo, he must be both a friend and a lover. A teetotaler and a boon companion."

"A successful business man and of an artistic temperament."

"A fireside companion and a Sir Walter Raleigh."

"Good—and yet INTERESTING!"

Which is to say that he must be both blond and brunette.

Wise and foolish, Quiet and gay, Young and old, Red and blue.

Verily, verily, I say unto thee, there is no such ANIMAL in the heavens above, nor in the earth beneath, nor in the tunnels that lead to Brooklyn UNDER the earth!

And the only Perfect Husbands are they that dwell in the graveyard and in the feminine imagination.

Go to! As the motor cars in a great garage so are the Eligible Men. Lo, a touring car is NOT a runabout, nor a racing machine a limousine.

Neither is a husband that shineth beneath the lamplight and the moonlight a thing of beauty and a joy before breakfast.

And he that moweth the lawn and painteth the front piazza with his own hands will peradventure refuse to wear a dinner coat; he that bringeth home many shakels hath no time for babbling sweet nothings; he that is a teetotaler is not always companionable, and he that is artistic seldom proveth a provider of provender and a digger after dollars.

Therefore I say unto thee, Let the Widow of Brooklyn, who seeketh the impossible, gather a bale of straw and make her an Husband in the image of a MAN.

Let her set him in her drawing-room and cover him with garlands and illusions and imagination.

For only thus shall she attain her IDEAL.

But as for thee, my Daughter, I charge thee be content to get thee a REGULAR man, and to remove the blemishes and put on the modern improvements and the finishing touches afterward.

For the Lord maketh a man, but the WIFE maketh a husband.

And a GOOD HUSBAND is the noblest work of woman!

But a PERFECT Husband—who shall find one ready made?

## Law for the Laity

By Henry G. Wenzel Jr.

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**2—The Check.**

**T**HE check is without doubt the greatest medium of exchange, and most people are familiar with its use. It is, briefly, an order on a bank or depository to pay at once to a certain person or his order or to bearer a stated amount of money from a fund deposited with it by the drawer. It is further a conditional contract to pay the said sum in the event of the payor refusing to do so. However, the drawee must use reasonable diligence in presenting the check for payment, for in the event of his neglect to do so, and the failure of the bank, he will lose and will not be able to force the maker to make good his loss.

Payment on a check may be stopped any time before payment, except where it has been certified by the payor. Certification is a guarantee that the payor has sufficient funds out

of which to pay the check and that it will be paid when presented for that purpose. A verbal acceptance and statement as above is not sufficient, the certification must be stamped or written across the instrument in order to be binding.

The practice of signing blank checks, by no means an uncommon one, is dangerous and should be avoided. Should the payee insert an amount greatly in excess of what has been agreed the check comes into the hands of an innocent third party the maker would have no defense to a suit for its payment. Remember that an indorsement of a negotiable instrument takes it free of any equities between drawer and drawee. Care should be taken in accepting a check toward payment of a disputed amount. If the words "in full of all accounts" appear on the check no further amount can be recovered. The check is deemed accepted in final settlement. The mere addition, however, of these words where there has been no controversy will not prejudice a payee's rights.

When a check is cashed at a bank, the bank is deemed to have accepted it in final settlement. The mere addition, however, of these words where there has been no controversy will not prejudice a payee's rights.

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